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Daniel A. Reed is Vice President for Research and Economic Development, as well as University Chair in Computational Science and Bioinformatics and Professor of Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering and Medicine, at the University of Iowa. In this role, he is responsible for the university's research processes and compliance, campus-wide research and policy centers, technology evaluation and licensing, and economic development.

Prior to joining the University of Iowa, from 2007 to 2012, he was a senior leader at Microsoft, first serving as Microsoft's scalable and multicore computing strategist and later as Corporate Vice President for Extreme Computing and Technology Policy. In these roles, he helped shape Microsoft's long-term vision for technology innovations in parallel and cloud computing and the company's associated policy engagement with governments and institutions around the world.

Previously, he was the Chancellor's Eminent Professor at UNC Chapel Hill, as well as the Director of the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) and the Chancellor's Senior Advisor for Strategy and Innovation for UNC Chapel Hill. Prior to that, he was Gutzwiller Professor and Head of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and Director of the NSF National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA). He was also one of the principal investigators and chief architect for the NSF TeraGrid. He received his PhD in computer science in 1983 from Purdue University.

In addition to his technical activities, Reed has been deeply involved in policy initiatives related to science, technology and innovation, both in the United States and internationally. He has served as a member of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission's Technical Advisory Committee, as a member of the U.S. President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) and chair of the computational science subcommittee of the President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC). He currently serves as chair of the capability computing review committee for Los Alamos National Laboratory, as a consultant to Department of Energy, and as a member of the National Academies Board on Global Science and Technology.